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Two memorials. Two histories.

Why the Emmett Till memorial briefly sat in front of the Confederate monument



NAKIYAH JORDAN / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Curtis Hill and Tyler Yarbrough, two University of Mississippi students, carried the bullet-riddled Emmett Till memorial from Nutt Auditorium to the Confederate monument in the Circle.

KENNETH NIEMEYER
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The walk from Nutt Auditorium to the Circle isn't long. It's not more than a few hundred steps, but the sign, a memorial for Emmett Till, was heavy. This sign, like the two before it, had been vandalized — this time with bullet holes distinct enough for the sharpened metal to leave Curtis Hill's hand bleeding.

Hill, alongside Tyler Yarbrough, carried the memorial sign to briefly rest in front of the Confederate monument in the Circle on Oct. 20. The two African American students made the short, meaningful walk as a symbolic gesture. They said that they wanted to

signal that change has occurred, but progress is slow.

"I think the idea behind taking it to the statue comes from a couple things," Hill said. "It comes from the state of Mississippi politics right now, and how Confederate monuments and Confederate statues and the Confederacy (are) maybe being over-highlighted at this point."

The Emmett Till Legacy Alliance worked with the Emmett Till Interpretive Center in Sumner to bring the vandalized memorial to campus. The marker was put on display in Bryant Hall, and the Legacy Alliance hosted a student panel discussion about Emmett

SEE MONUMENT PAGE 8

Cato scholar to discuss Trump's foreign policy on campus

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Christopher Preble agrees with both Democrats and Republicans. He believes Donald Trump, as a candidate, made strong points about America's inconclusive, open-ended wars but thinks that President Trump's policy proposals after he was elected president have been inadequate.

Preble is the vice president for defense and foreign policy at the Cato Institute, a libertarian think tank based in Washington, D.C. He's also the author of "Fuel to the Fire: How Trump Made America's Broken Foreign Policy Even Worse (and How We Can Recover)." Next Tuesday, Preble will speak at the Overby Center about his new book and how scholars at the Cato Institute are offering foreign policy alternatives that are neither a rejection of Trump nor a modification of policies prior.

"Donald Trump has definitely

shaken up the foreign policy debate (and most other debates, for that matter)," Preble said. "We thought it important to separate Trump's critique of foreign policy from Trump the person and the Trump administration's policies, which don't always line up."

This is Preble's first time speaking on a college campus. He said the message of his book and subsequent conversation should resonate with all Americans.

"Americans are frustrated by our foreign policy and often feel powerless to do anything about it," Preble said. "We think their concerns should be taken seriously."

Preble added that the United States has strayed far from its foreign policy roots under George Washington, but the Cato Institute is striving to offer alternative policy options that reduce, among other things, the use of force.

"We should be an example of democracy and human rights, not their armed vindicator abroad,"

Preble said. "Although that view is largely absent in Washington, D.C., today, Cato scholars aim to restore it. A principled and restrained foreign policy would keep the nation out of most foreign conflicts and be cheaper, more ethical, and less destructive of civil liberties."

The Ole Miss chapter of the John Quincy Adams Society, a foreign policy club, is hosting Preble's event. The group, which sponsors one large-scale event each semester, held a panel on the Arab Spring with three university professors last semester.

Wills Hay, president of the society, interned at the Cato Institute this summer. Because of his work with Preble, he was able to bring Preble to Ole Miss for this event, which Hay said will give students an opportunity to talk to a foremost expert in a political forum.

"This is a great opportunity for people to hear from a professional in the field, to ask questions from someone they would otherwise not be able to get in front of," Hay said. "So, as eager as I was to get Dr. Preble down here, he was just as interested in spreading his opinion, his views on foreign policy and what's going on right now, with students."

Preble said that while he finds himself agreeing with people on the political left and right, he does not define policies by which party enacts them. He mentioned

solutions the U.S. could take to improve its foreign policy.

"U.S. foreign policy has come to rely too much on the use of force," Preble said. "U.S. leaders should stop trying to dominate the world militarily and should encourage other countries, including longtime U.S. allies to do more in their respective regions. This doesn't mean turning away from the rest of the world. On the contrary, we need greater global engagement through mutually beneficial trade and cultural exchange."

Preble said that the United States could learn something from its sixth president. Adams, who drafted the Monroe Doctrine, advised European powers away from further colonization and conquest in the Western Hemisphere and said that the United States would stay out of European wars. Preble alluded to an 1821 Independence Day speech Quincy Adams gave that elaborated on his foreign policy stance.

"Adams famously explained that a wise foreign policy would not go 'abroad in search of monsters to destroy,' but equally important, the United States would promote liberty by the power of our example," he said. "It is a message that should still resonate today."

The event will be held Tuesday, Nov. 5 at 5 p.m. in the Overby Auditorium and is open to the public.

House passes rules for probe

ASSOCIATED PRESS
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WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats swept a rules package for their impeachment probe of President Donald Trump through a divided House Thursday, as the chamber's first vote on the investigation highlighted the partisan breach the issue has only deepened.

By 232-196, lawmakers approved the procedures they'll follow as weeks of closed-door interviews with witnesses evolve into public committee hearings and — almost certainly — votes on whether the House should recommend Trump's removal.

All voting Republicans opposed the package. Every voting Democrat but two supported it.

Underscoring the pressure Trump has heaped on his party's lawmakers, he tweeted, "Now is the time for Republicans to stand together and defend the leader of their party against these smears."

Yet the roll call also accentuated how Democrats have rallied behind the impeachment inquiry after House Speaker Nancy Pelosi spent months urging caution until evidence and public support had grown.

She and other Democratic leaders had feared a premature vote would wound the reelection prospects of dozens of their members, including freshmen and lawmakers from Trump-won districts or seats held previously by Republicans. But recent polls have shown voters' growing receptivity to the investigation and, to a lesser degree, ousting Trump.


That and evidence that House investigators have amassed have helped unify Democrats, including those from GOP areas. Rep. Cindy Axne, D-Iowa, said she was supporting a pathway to giving "the American people the facts they deserve," while Rep. Andy Kim, D-N.J., said voters warrant "the uninhibited truth."

Yet Republicans were also buoyed by polling, which has shown that GOP voters stand unflinchingly behind Trump.

"The impeachment-obsessed Democrats just flushed their majority down the toilet," said Michael McAdams, a spokesman for House Republicans' campaign arm.

Elsewhere at the Capitol on Thursday, three House panels led by the Intelligence Committee questioned their latest witness into the allegations that led to the impeachment inquiry: that Trump pressured Ukraine to produce dirt on his Democratic political rivals by withholding military aid and an Oval Office meeting craved by the country's new president.

Vote Tuesday, November 5

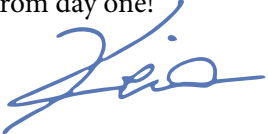


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Meet the candidates

GRIFFIN NEAL
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On Tuesday, Mississippians will vote to elect either Lt. Gov Tate Reeves or Attorney General Jim Hood as the state’s next governor. This campaign season has seen many attacks from both campaigns, as Reeves has attempted to paint Hood as a liberal proponent of a big government, whereas Hood has similarly attempted to characterize Reeves as an ally to special interests and corporations.

Amid the attack ads, both candidates have released policy plans, offering their unique visions for the direction of the state. The Daily Mississippian has compiled a voter guide in advance of Tuesday’s election, with candidate history and policy positions. Voting in the Mississippi gubernatorial election runs from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m on Tuesday, Nov. 5.

Hood

Fast facts:

Jim Hood, 57, is a native of New Houlka. Since 2003, he has served as Mississippi’s attorney general and is currently the only Democrat elected to a statewide office. Since then, he has been reelected three times and is currently attempting to be the first Democratic governor in Mississippi since 1999, when Ronnie Musgrove was elected. Hood holds a bachelor’s degree and a Juris Doctor from the University of Mississippi.

Policy positions:

Health Care: Hood supports the expansion of Medicaid in Mississippi, which would add over \$1 billion in federal funds into the state’s healthcare funding. He also supports the expansion of health coverage under Medicaid and the decrease of Medicaid eligibility limits.

Education: He supports implementing a fully-funded, statewide pre-K program as well as investing \$31 million into early education programs. Additionally, Hood supports a teacher pay raise of \$2,000 over two years and a recalibration of the raise scale. He’s released policy proposals to curtail teacher shortages, including a tuition forgiveness plan for teachers who teach in the state for five years.

Taxation: Hood supports cutting the grocery tax (currently 7%) in half, which he says would save Mississippi families \$153 annually on average.

Workforce Training: Hood supports tuition-free community college statewide. His plan states that Mississippi would fill the gap left after federal grants and scholarships. He also supports expanding apprenticeship programs, proposing \$5 million to fund 500 new apprenticeships in Mississippi.



KATHERINE BUTLER / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Reeves

Fast facts:

Tate Reeves, 45, is a native of Rankin County. In 2003, at age 29, he was elected as the state treasurer, making him the youngest state treasurer in the nation at the time. Reeves was re-elected in 2007. In 2011, he was elected as Lt. Gov., the position he currently holds. He graduated from Millsaps College with a degree in economics. Reeves defeated both state Rep. Robert Foster and Judge Bill Waller Jr. in Republican primaries.

Policy positions:

Health Care: He opposes the medicaid expansion in Mississippi and supports a free-market approach to health care.

Education: Reeves supports raising Mississippi teacher pay to the southeastern average (\$47,074) in four years, as well as offering a \$10,000 bonus for new teachers in areas of shortage — both geographically and subject-based. He’s also proposed a teacher advisory council that would advise the governor on issues teachers currently face by June 2020.

Abortion: Reeves is “100%” anti-abortion. He supports the “heart-beat bill,” which states that if a fetus has a heartbeat, an abortion would be illegal.

Second Amendment: He wants less gun control legislation and a law that dictates that if the federal government were to declare a state of emergency and attempt to seize guns from Mississippi citizens, he would not allow it.

Disclaimer: All candidate policy positions were pulled directly from candidate web pages.

CORRECTION

An article from Monday should have reported that William Faulkner won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1949. He was not eligible for the prize in 1958, when Boris Pasternak won, and the two were not competing.

The article also should have reported that Faulkner scared the children by making noises around the house after he told ghost stories with his stepdaughter Cho Cho, not Dean.

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FOOTBALL

College football pick ‘em: Week ten

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I mean, what else do we need to stay? We need no introduction. The picks speak for us. We turned up on y’all with the backups last week, but now we’re back and better than ever with a grip on the ins and outs of week 10 of collegiate American football tighter than that Ben Simmons STF maneuver on Karl-Anthony Towns. Turn on “Say It Right” by Nelly Furtado if you want to feel the vibe while you read this.



Virginia Tech at No. 16 Notre Dame (-17.5) O/U 58
Joshua: Don’t watch this game. Go finish a puzzle or watch the grass grow. Who cares? The Irish are done, and why would anyone watch a team named ‘the

Hokies’ unless a quarterback named Vick is taking snaps? You must be out of your mind. Hokies cover.
Maddy: Virginia Tech’s mascot is really called the Hokie. Why? Is Virginia Tech’s signature dance the “Hokie” Pokey? I’m sorry, I’ll leave now. Fighting Irish, please beat them.
Erin: I’m of Irish descent, and one day I hope to marry a nice, bearded Irish prince and live on the countryside with an Australian shepherd running in fields of clover and wildflowers with an ice cold Guinness in hand. In saying that, I still don’t like Notre Dame. Also, my best friend’s parents went to Virginia Tech. Go Hokies, I guess.
No. 8 Georgia at No. 6 Florida (+6.5) O/U 44.5
Joshua: They’re really counting the Gators out by a touchdown? Kyle Trask and the boys are in the swamp and I don’t trust



the Bulldogs to go there and win. Florida wins the ball game. Shout out Mr. Two Bits.
Maddy: You know, Florida as a state always has something bad going for them, but it’s refreshing to see good news regarding the peninsula. No. 6? That’s a heck of a flex. Nicely done. I’m sure Georgia is great, but I’m kinda rooting for the Gators to take down the Bulldogs.
Erin: I’ve long been harboring a secret fear of dogs. Alligator, alligator, eat ‘em up, eat ‘em up. Gators cover.



No. 9 Utah at Washington (+3.5) O/U 48
Joshua: Name a more random perennial top-25 team. I’m not a West Coast football type of man, but I like the Utes’ gusto.
Maddy: I didn’t even realize that Utah had a good football team. Whoops. Good for them! Now that I know they exist and since they seem to be thriving in

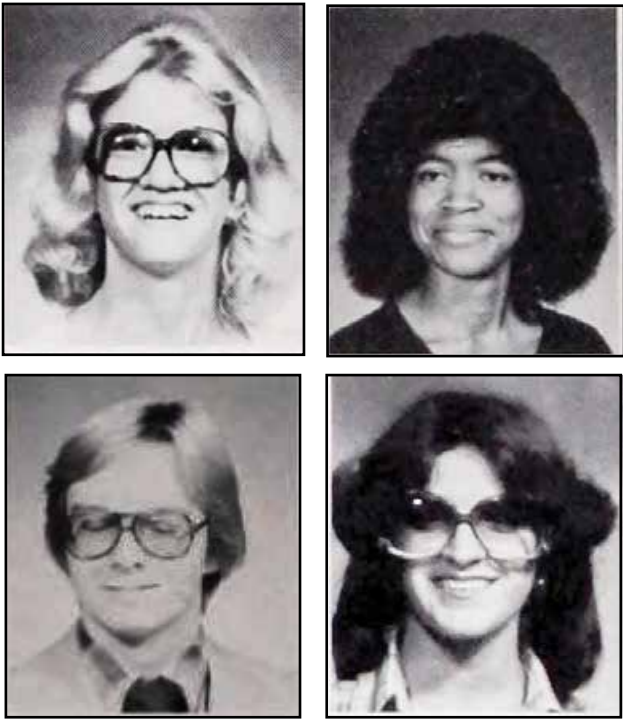
the top 10, I’m rooting for them. Go Utes!
Erin: I can definitely, 100% no-question-about-it guarantee you that I couldn’t care less who wins this game.



No. 15 SMU at No. 24 Memphis. (-6.0) O/U 72
Joshua: Memphis. Memphis. Memphis. Nothing but Memphis, Tennessee. The most beautiful land in the world. And they got College Gameday to pull up. No bottle service for the Mustangs this weekend.
Maddy: Well, I have no idea who, what or where SMU is. That’s tough. Memphis for the win.
Erin: Confession time: I had to Google what SMU stood for. I guessed Southern Michigan, but that wasn’t correct. Also, Memphis is ranked? I’m learning so many things. My ex-boyfriend is from Memphis, so for this one, we are going with SMU.



Ole Miss at No. 11 Auburn (-19.5) O/U 53
Joshua: I have serious doubts that I’d have the confidence to look Derrick Brown or Marlon Davidson in the eyes, so why would I bet against the Eagle Tigers? The boys are real. Bo Nix and the Tigers use this game as a nice get-right game before the Georgia Bulldogs roll into Auburn in two weeks.
Maddy: Am I an Ole Miss fan? Yes. Do I want Ole Miss to win? Also yes. But am I realistic? You guessed it: yes I am. Unfortunately for us, Auburn will most likely win the game. Fortunately for us, we will win the party!
Erin: Imagine high school junior Erin, on a college visit in good ole Auburn, Alabama. In an effort to spite my older sister, I was dead set on being a Tiger. Alas, Auburn gave me no scholarship money so a Rebel I became, and a Rebel I shall be forever more. For that reason, of course, always, Hotty Toddy.



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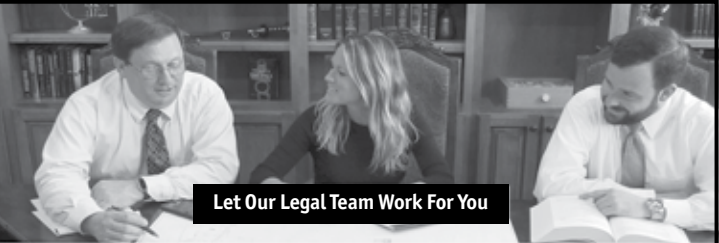
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FOOTBALL

Ole Miss heads to the plains looking to upset No. 11 Auburn

BENTON DODD
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Matt Luke and the Ole Miss football team will return to the gridiron after last week's open date to face the Auburn Tigers at 6 p.m on Saturday in Jordan-Hare Stadium.

The Rebels are coming off of two consecutive SEC losses and will need their best performance of the season along with some luck, as Auburn is favored by nearly three scores.

Auburn head coach Gus Malzahn's squad enters the game ranked No. 11 in the nation and is looking to bounce back from its hard-fought loss to LSU. Auburn lost by just three points after having failed to convert two first-and-goal situations into touchdowns.

This season has been a tale of two quarterbacks for Ole Miss. Both Matt Corral and John Rhys Plumlee possess undeniable talent, but the rotation system and play-calling employed thus far have prevented either from getting into a rhythm for longer than a few consecutive offensive series.

After undergoing minor surgery on his left knee during



FILE PHOTO: BILLY SCHUERMAN / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Jerrion Ealy rushes down the sideline against Texas A&M on Oct. 19. Ole Miss will face Auburn Saturday night at Jordan-Hare Stadium.

the bye-week, Plumlee said he'll be ready to play on Saturday.

"I feel a lot better," Plumlee said on Wednesday. "Moving around a lot today felt really good. I feel great and excited about Saturday."

Plumlee and Corral will have to deal a rugged Auburn defense that has been nothing short of disruptive this season, leading the SEC in forced fumbles, with 11, and registering the second-most sacks, with 23.

The Tigers are considerably weaker against passing than against rushing, having registered the second fewest interceptions in the SEC, and allowed the fifth most passing yards. These statistics and the fact that Ole Miss is likely to be playing from behind could indicate a potential game script more in line with Corral's skill set than with Plumlee's. Corral has had his share of struggles this season, but Plumlee hasn't been a real threat through the air this season.

“Defensively, it’s one of the top defenses we’ve faced since I’ve been here,” Luke said. “They’re good in the interior and the secondary and very physical at linebacker. We’re going to have to do a good job of not getting negative plays and protecting the ball. These guys get turnovers. When you drop back, they pressure the passer and create turnovers with their physicality. We’ll have to play well on the road against a very good team.”

Auburn also has freshman quarterback Bo Nix, who has struggled at times to throw the ball effectively.

The Rebels are, however, third in the SEC in sacks with

22, and Auburn has seen some recent volatility on its offensive line. After an ill-timed snap, Auburn benched starting center Kaleb Kim and subbed in Nick Brahms for the remainder of the game during its loss to LSU.

The Rebels hope to keep up the pressure on Nix and force him to make mistakes. Former JUCO standout Sam Williams has a two-game sack streak, and will look to keep it going.

The story of this game will likely be how the run-heavy offense implemented by Rich Rodriguez will cope with Auburn's stout run-stoppers, and if the Ole Miss quarterbacks will step up to fill in where the run game may struggle. According to Pro Football Focus, Jerriion Ealy has the highest elusive rating of any SEC running back, and has made the most out of a minimal workload, turning only six carries into 80 yards and a long touchdown run against Texas A&M.

The Auburn game will be a tough test for the team, but if they are able to pull out an upset, it would be a huge win for Luke, who has come under fire this season for a lack of execution in winnable games.



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Album review: “Pony” is here, and Rex Orange County is back

GRIFFIN NEAL
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Alex O’Connor exists in a peculiar space. Better known as Rex Orange County, the 21-year-old from Surrey, England, is not a pop singer. He’s not a rapper either. He’s

the amalgamation of bedroom pop cosplayers, Odd Future apologists and old souls.

He occupies a unique place in contemporary music: impossible to pigeonhole, but not unusual. He’s no Tyler, the Creator circa 2012 — which is ironic, because Tyler and his collective of genre-bending

raconteurs are responsible for so much of O’Connor’s sound and notoriety.

His third album “Pony,” released Friday through Sony, is somehow just as juvenile as his first album, “bcos u will never b free.” That album is full of angry, sophomoric bedroom pop. It’s a requiem on past love, complete with lines like “pizza box / wedding ring left among the crust” and “don’t call me daddy / cause that’s just (expletive) weird.”

If nothing else, “Pony” represents a maturation of O’Connor’s sonic preferences. Whereas his first two albums consist of similar rhythmic patterns and instruments, “Pony” introduces professional production into O’Connor’s boyish sound.

Sony produced this album, and you can hear it. No two songs sound alike (take notes, Taylor Swift). He pays homage to new age hip-hop with playful ad-libs in “Face-to-Face,” uses synth piano in “10/10” and opts for an Ed Sheeran-esque pop beat in “It Gets Better.”

But the juvenile persists. In “Face to Face,” O’Connor sings, “She calmed me down that night I freaked out / We stayed up, I threw up in that house,” ostensibly recalling a night of being overserved.

In “Always,” O’Connor sounds like a brooding, omniscient kid. “But until somebody sits me down / And tells me why I’m different now / I’ll always be the way I always am,” he sings. The subtext here? O’Connor is a young adult dealing with the same issues that other 21-year-olds do.

In “Pony,” O’Connor shifted his focus from past loves to his current love, fellow singer/songwriter Thea. He doesn’t go so far as “ooh I love my wife,” as Chance the Rapper did in his summer album, “The Big Day,” but it’s no secret that this project is partly about her.



PHOTO COURTESY: REX ORANGE COUNTY VIA FACEBOOK

He sings, “Cause she changed the world I know / And it’s better for it / Four years later, and look where we really are / Look how far we’ve come,” in “It Gets Better.” In line with the song’s title, O’Connor’s lyrics do as well.

O’Connor doesn’t punch above his age. He is a college-aged musician, and the lyrics reflect it. “Pony” doesn’t tackle weighty subjects or attempt to normalize obscurity, like so many of his contemporaries. He raps and sings about young love, self doubt and losing friends — themes synonymous with the maturation of a teenager faced with international stardom before he could legally smoke a cigarette.

Pitchfork, the blog and self-described gatekeepers of online music opinions, lambasted this album for its lack of originality, characterizing it as “irritating enough to activate the mildest allergy to sincerity.” And while Pitchfork can legitimately be discounted as an ultra-contrarian, hipster potpourri, they got this one right.

O’Connor’s album does not revolutionize or push the boundaries of music. Its lyrics do not inspire sweeping social change, and they won’t usher in a new era of bedroom pop. He sounds like a Gen-Z Billy Joel.

But it doesn’t matter because the music is delightful. This album is breezy and pleasant; it’s shamelessly optimistic and retains the catchy hooks and beat flips that catapulted Rex Orange County into stardom. Each song compliments the other, though no two are alike.

O’Connor is an artist, and with “Pony,” he’s released a 10-track piece of art that speaks to the trials — however trivial — he has faced so far in his life. But it’s also a signal that Rex Orange County has time and space to grow. In “Pluto Projector,” as a Frank Ocean-like choir floats in the background, O’Connor asks: “Nothing’s changed / I’m still a boy inside my thoughts / Am I meant to understand my faults?”

His response? “I don’t think so.”

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28217

ACROSS

1- Former Russian ruler;

5- Tell all;

9- Pampering places;

13- Stan’s chum;

15- Prego rival;

16- Trial;

17- Chambers;

18- Author Turgenev;

19- I could ___ horse!;

20- Born: Fr.;

21- Periodic movement of the sea;

23- Horse-drawn vehicle in India;

25- Franklin D.’s mother;

26- Spanish rice dish;

27- Uppercase;

30- Pipe joint;

31- Put on a pedestal;

32- Insular;

37- Boy or man;

38- Radiant;

40- Staffer;

41- Previous to birth;

43- Army leader?;

44- NASCAR sponsor;

45- Intolerant of another’s creed;

47- Beard type;

50- Overt;

51- Adherent of Islam;

52- Before long;

53- ___ Schwarz;

56- Type size;

57- Spy;

59- ___ of a Salesman;

61- According to the Bible, he was the first man;

62- Cab;

63- Pertaining to birds;

64- Dynamic beginning;

65- Eye sore;

66- Rubik of cube fame;

DOWN

1- Ripped;

2- Blackthorn;

3- Shampoo ingredient;

4- Flange;

5- A type of suite or party;

6- Bathe;

7- ___ Khan;

8- Small house;

9- Take the wrong way?;

10- It may be cultured;

11- Latin stars;

12- Command to Fido;

14- What you will;

22- George’s lyricist;

24- War, to Sherman;

25- Temptress;

26- Cancun coin;

27- Group of tents;

28- Purim month;

29- Tent stick;

32- Off one’s feed;

33- Brother of Moses;

34- Windshield option;

35- Actress Falco;

36- Action;

38- Tries;

39- Open wide;

42- Italian wine city;

43- Plan;

45- Bet taker;

46- Wall St. debut;

47- Tour leader;

48- Movie award;

49- Battle site of 1836;

52- Alluring;

53- Free from bias;

54- ___ impasse;

55- Don’t tell me!;

58- Devour;

60- First mate?;

SOLUTION TO 10.30.2019 PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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56					57	58			59	60	
61					62				63		
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SUDOKU®

Puzzles by KrazyDad

				6		5		
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4		2			8	6	9	
	6	9	2		1		7	
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HOW TO PLAY

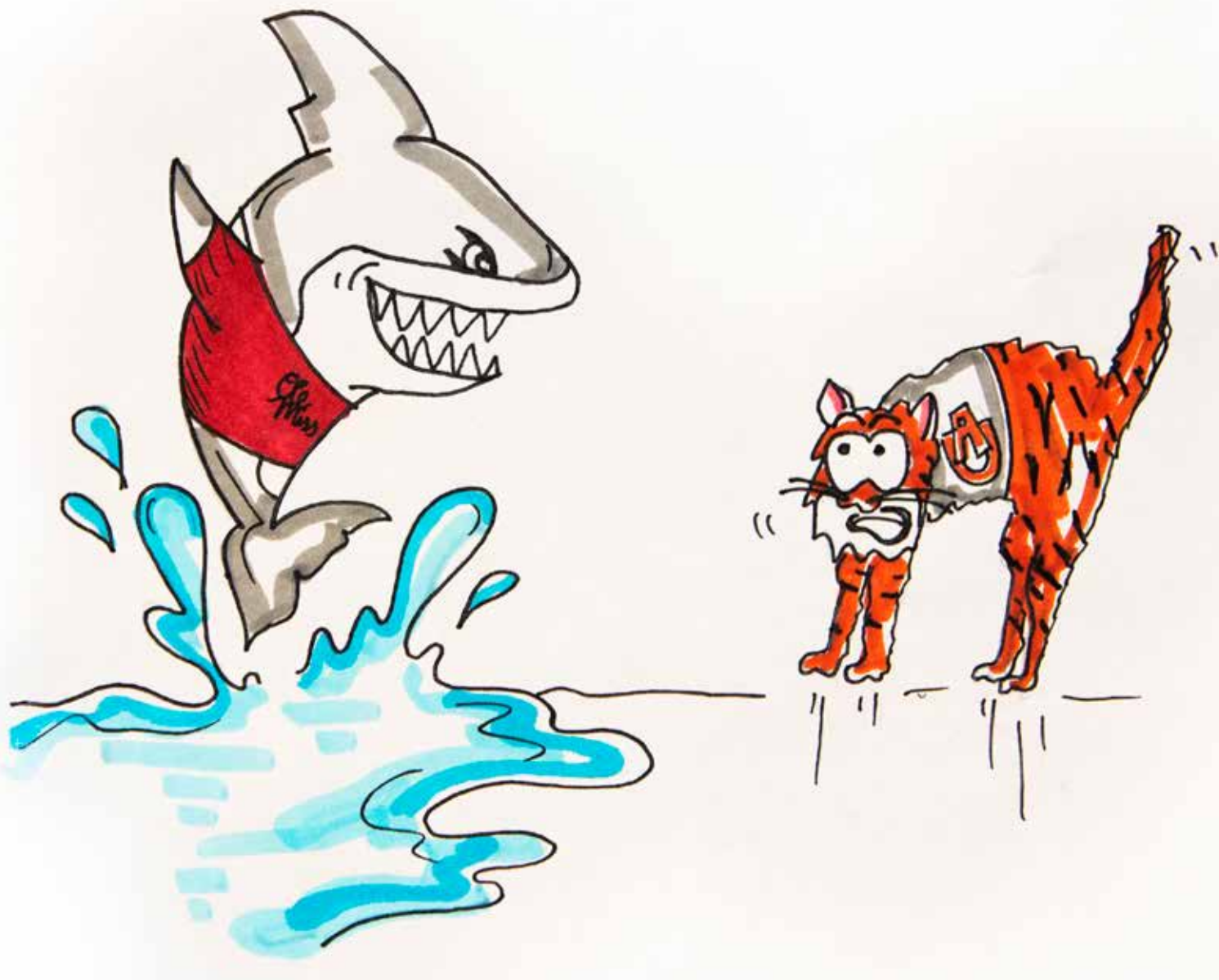
Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 with no repeats.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL

INTERMEDIATE

6	1	3	7	8	5	6	4	2
8	5	2	4	1	9	3	6	7
4	9	7	2	6	3	5	1	8
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3	6	9	8	7	1	2	5	4
1	8	4	5	2	6	7	3	9
7	2	5	3	6	4	1	8	9

OPINION



NATALIE PRUITT / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

Cultural appropriation is a joke

LAUREN MOSES
thedmopinion@gmail.com

Recently, a student self-reported a social media post in which they were wearing blackface. In response, the Office of Diversity and Community Engagement sent all students an email to instruct us to dress in culturally appropriate garb this Halloween season. Overlooking the non-descript email and seemingly improbable events surrounding this self-reporting, our school’s administration is telling us what we can and cannot wear — all in the name of social justice.

Of course, blackface should not be condoned as it belittles others. However, there is a big difference between mockery of another person and wearing a costume celebrating another culture. Students should feel free to express any culture and have fun this Halloween without fearing accusations of cultural appropriation.

It is important to understand the history of the term. “Cultural appropriation”

was first used in the 1980s as a post-colonial examination of Western imperialism. Finding roots in the Marxist idea of class appropriation (the dominant or upper class defining “high culture”), this term seeks to degrade Western accomplishments as acts of colonial terror. Even more, the definition of cultural appropriation takes a sweeping knock at any act that adopts elements of an outside culture, for any reason.

According to politically correct (PC) culture, cultural appropriation is harmful because it hinges on a lack of respect and understanding of the original culture. But blanketing the term “cultural appropriation” on all costumes of a different culture from the wearer destroys the pursuit of understanding. If someone labels a costume as cultural appropriation, regardless of what the wearer intended, the conversation about other cultures dies, and the wearer is told they are wrong for wearing that costume. And it does not stop at costumes.

Those who oppose cultural appropriation say anything worn representing a minority culture is considered cultural appropriation.

There seems to be no standard for measuring cultural appropriation. Think about it: If a white person wears a sombrero or a Native American headdress, many will label their actions as racist who is appropriating that culture. PC culture doesn’t ask if the person is wearing the costume to mock another person or culture. Instead, it makes hasty generalizations about the person in costume and his or her intention in wearing it.

Another issue with this term is what is meant by cultural appropriation. Does it include the food we eat? The languages we learn? The music we listen to? Placing limits on what people can wear keeps us from truly understanding other cultures.

Prager University (PragerU), an educational channel popular on YouTube, has gone to college campuses to see what cultural appropri-

ation is and how far removed the idea concept is from reality. In the five-minute videos, a PragerU contributor dresses in the garb of cultures different from his own (Mexican, Native American and Chinese) and asks students what they think of the costume. Overwhelmingly, the students say the costume is “offensive” to or “ignorant” of other cultures.

Then, the host goes to a neighborhood where the culture he is “appropriating” is dominant. There, he is met with welcoming responses. The people of the neighborhood appreciate his enthusiasm for their culture and find no offense at his costume. The people he is “appropriating” recognize that he is engaging

in their culture to learn and enjoy.

The label of cultural appropriation does more to divide us than to promote respect and understanding. Often, it takes engaging within a culture to truly realize its impact on history and the contemporary world. So, for Halloween, do not shy away from wearing a certain costume simply because it does not reflect your culture. Your costume does not have to be limited to your culture. Respectfully engage with other cultures and learn what makes us similar.

Lauren Moses is a junior economics and political science major from Coppell, Texas.

Opinion Policies:

Columns do not represent the views of The University of Mississippi or The Daily Mississippian. The Daily Mississippian welcomes letters to the editor, which should be emailed to dmletters@olemiss.edu. Letters should be no longer than 300 words. They may be edited for clarity, brevity and libel. Third-party letters and those with pseudonyms or no name will not be published. Letters are limited to one per individual per month. Letters should include contact information, including relationship to the university, if applicable.

MONUMENT

continued from page 1

Till's legacy and the impact that a photo of students holding guns in front of the vandalized memorial had on them along with a panel of people working in Tallahatchie County to preserve Till's memory.

The bullet-riddled sign now rests back at the interpretive center in Sumner, the location of Till's murder and his murderers' exoneration.

Hill, Yarborough, Yasmine Malone and founder of the legacy alliance on campus Isabel Spafford, spoke on the student panel. Hill, Yarborough and Malone are all African American students from

"I just hope that by the time we leave, or sometime after, we can come to a point where we decide in our collective history. We no longer want to have the separation between the masses that live here."

- Yasmine Malone
Student

the Delta, and they spoke about how racial tensions in the area have followed them to the university.

"James Meredith gets a statue outside the Lyceum, right in front of the bus stop area, but the Confederate statue gets to be posted in the middle of our campus," Malone said. "It's huge, and it's in the middle of our campus. Students don't have to walk past James Meredith, and if I don't remember to glance over, I don't even see (it), but I can't avoid the Confederate statue."

Yarborough saw his experience growing up in the Delta was mirrored at the university as well. He compared the legacy of civil rights leader Vera Pigeo being overshadowed in his hometown of Clarksdale to Meredith's legacy at the university.

Pigeo worked to integrate the public transportation system in Clarksdale, and the bus station that she helped integrate will soon be turned into a Wingstop.

"There's so much history in the Delta that's just locked away that people don't know about," Yarborough said.

A mural of Pigeo was recently painted in Clarksdale, and Yarborough hopes that bringing more attention to her legacy will shine a light on how the history of the civil rights movement affected the area.

"One big thing that I talk about is love for your community, and in a place like the Delta, it's so easy not to love where you live or understand the history in your town, and it makes you want to just go and leave," Yarborough said.

Yarborough wanted to start a conversation surrounding Confederate symbolism on campus. He said that once that conversation is started, the university would be able to have more conversations about how the promotion of Confederate symbolism can suppress other moments in history on campus.

"We can clearly look at (the

outcome of the Emmett Till case) and say, 'That's wrong,' but that's an institution of our society that governs the way we administer our justice," Yarborough said. "So when we look at the Confederate statue, we see that this same symbolism of white supremacy is embedded within that statue ,too, and how it, for years, has been used as a rallying point to, I guess, maintain white supremacy."

The university put out several statements condemning the vandalism after a photo surfaced on Instagram in July of Kappa Alpha fraternity members standing in front of the vandalized Emmett Till memorial.

The university admitted that it had learned of the photo in March through its Bias Incident Response Team system, but because of communication errors between university groups, there was no action for months.

Provost Noel Wilkin and Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Community Engagement Katrina Caldwell committed to diversity training for all students going through the Greek recruitment process at the Provost forum in September.

"I applaud them for doing that ... but (I) also can't give the university slack when they don't turn in paperwork to get the statue moved, so we also have to call them out when they do stuff like that," Yarborough said.

Currently, the statue's fate rests in the hands of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH). On Aug. 27, the university sent its plans for relocation to the MDAH, over five months after student groups voted for the monument to be relocated. If the plans are approved by the MDAH at their December meeting, the monument's relocation will be placed as an agenda item for the Institutions of Higher Learning to make the final decision.

After the photo surfaced, there were many conversations on campus of whether the students in the picture would be held accountable by the university based on the standards of the University Creed. The university has said that, while the students were in violation of the Creed, the Creed is not actionable as it stands. Wilkin said that the university would bring in speakers over the next year to talk about the actionability of the Creed at the Provost Forum.

Hill said he thinks the university should change its policy concerning the Creed's actionability.

"When it comes to things like academic dishonesty, professors can refer back to the Creed, and there are certain actions they can take against you," Hill said. "Of course, if you plagiarize, that goes against the Creed and maybe a lot of university policies. In that same vein, students can still be held responsible to the extent that it will be something that goes beyond community service hours."

The students from the panel hope that these conversations will help define a shared history for the community.

"I just hope that by the time we leave, or sometime after, we can come to a point where we decide in our collective history," Malone said. "We no longer want to have the separation between the masses that live here."




MEGAN SUTTLES / THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN

The Emmett Till memorial sign that was shot by vandals. The Center for Inclusion and Cross Cultural Engagement arranged for two buses to transport attendees to Sumner for a day of engagement with the Emmett Till Interpretive Center.

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VOTE November 5, 2019



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